2015 Town Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Rindge in the County of Cheshire, in said State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs.

You are hereby notified that the first session (deliberative) of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Rindge will be held at the Rindge Memorial School on School Street, in said Rindge on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. with a snow date of Saturday, February 7, 2015. Warrant Articles may be amended at this session per RSA 40:13, IV, with the exception of Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law and cannot be amended per RSA 40:13, IV a. Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

You are further notified that the second session of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Rindge will be held at the Rindge Memorial School in said Rindge on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot per RSA 40:13, VII. The polls will be open on said date at 7:00 a.m. in the forenoon and will not close until 7:00 p.m. in the evening.

Articles

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

   Selectman: 3 years, 1 seat
   Planning Board: 3 years, 2 seats
   Trustees of the Trust Funds: 3 years, 1 seat
   Budget Advisory Committee: 3 years, 2 seats
   Board of Adjustment: 3 years, 2 seats
   Library Trustees: 3 years, 2 seats
   Library Trustees: 1 year, 1 seat
   Cemetery Trustees: 3 years, 1 seat
   Trustees of the Trust Funds 3 years, 1 seat

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as follows:
To amend Article XIII of the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance to eliminate Section F, which currently states: “An owner of contiguous lots, any one of which has less than the required frontage and/or area, must combine such lots to conform to the frontage and area requirements of this Zoning Ordinance before any building permit may be issued, unless said lots have been previously approved by the Planning Board or exceed five (5) acres in area.”

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 6-0-0)

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article XIII of the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance to eliminate Section G, which currently states: “Any lot sold or transferred by the owner of a lot contiguous to said lot on or after March 12, 1991, that does not meet the frontage or area requirements of this Zoning Ordinance will not be considered a separate building lot.”

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 6-0-0)

4. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend the following three sections: Article V Section B.3, Article VI Section C.3, and Article VII Section B.3 to read as follows:

3. Area:
   a. Each lot shall have an area of no less than two (2) acres.
   b. Single family dwelling lots shall have an area of no less than two (2) acres.
   c. Two family dwelling lots shall have an area of no less than three (3) acres.
   d. Multi-family dwelling lots shall have an area of no less than two (2) acres for each dwelling unit.

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 6-0-0)

5. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To rescind Article III, Section K and replace it as follows:

K. Road Acceptance: Prior to the acceptance by the Board of Selectman of any road previously approved by the Planning Board as a public way, said road shall be reviewed and inspected in the following manner:
1. The Roadway Committee, consisting of the DPW Director, the Director of Public and Life Safety, the Chief of Police, the Planning Director, one member of the Planning Board and two qualified citizens, in this case one being an abutter to the road being considered, shall be convened to render an advisory opinion to the Board of Selectmen based solely on the construction and acceptability of the road as built.

2. The Roadway Committee shall seek the opinion of a qualified Professional Engineer of their choosing, registered in the State of New Hampshire, who shall provide them with a written report regarding the compliance with Town standards, bond and security issues, projected maintenance, and other items requested. The owner of the road is responsible for the payment of all consulting and engineering fees incurred and failure to do so is cause for disapproval.

3. The Board of Selectmen shall conduct the layout and acceptance of the road as prescribed in New Hampshire R.S.A. 43 and 231, as amended, or to determine that the acceptance of the road shall be by a petition warrant article.

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 6-0-0)

6. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article V of the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance to eliminate Section 6, which currently states: "Churches' are allowed upon the granting of a Special Exception by the Board of Adjustment, when the Board is satisfied that the proposed use meets the requirements imposed by Article XIV,B."

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 5-1-0)

7. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article III, Section I of the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance to eliminate the final sentence of that section, which currently states: "No Real Estate Directional signs may be placed in the right of way."

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 6-0-0)

8. Are you in favor of the adoption of this Amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance as follows:
To amend Article V of the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance to eliminate Section Q, which currently states: “Internally illuminated signs including Vending Machine Signs and/or their facades.”

To amend Article III, Section F of the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance to add the word “External” as the first word of the heading of section F so that it reads as follows: “F. External Illumination Standards:”

To amend Article III, Section F of the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance to add a new subsection 1 and renumber current subsections 1 through 7 to 2 through 8. The new subsection 1 to read as follows: “The use of LED lighting and/or the use of efficient enclosed internal lighting is encouraged for all new applications and changes to all existing external lighting.”

To amend Article V of the Town of Rindge Sign Ordinance to eliminate Section O, which currently states: “Illuminated Canopy signs.”

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment. Vote: 5-1-0)

9. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling $3,706,400 Dollars? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be $3,791,227 Dollars which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY warrant article. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

10. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Four Thousand and Eleven ($74,011) Dollars for the fourth of five lease payments on the fire truck lease approved by the voters at the 2012 Annual Town Meeting? This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

11. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand ($18,000) Dollars to be added to the Wellington Road Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Account previously established? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

12. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundred Ninety ($156,590) for the purpose of replacing the 19 year old 1996 Highway Department 6 wheel dump/plow truck and equipping the truck with items such as radio, emergency lights and
plow attachments? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

13. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand ($10,000) Dollars to fund municipal energy projects as approved by the Board of Selectmen? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 2 in favor, 1 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

14. Shall the Town vote to establish an Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of supporting the Town’s 250th Anniversary celebration in 2018 and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand ($5,000) Dollars for that purpose and for incidental expenses related thereto and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 2 in favor, 1 opposed. Not recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 3 in favor, 4 opposed.)

15. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand ($30,000) Dollars for the purpose of purchasing a 15 passenger mini-bus or similar vehicle with lettering and a radio to replace the 13 year old Recreation Department van; and to authorize One Thousand ($1,000) Dollars of the purchase amount to be raised from taxes; and to authorize the acceptance of Twenty Nine Thousand ($29,000) Dollars of the purchase amount from donations. This shall be non-lapsing until January 1, 2018 or until the $29,000 in donations have been raised, whichever is sooner? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

16. Shall the Town vote to pass the following non-binding resolution, which reads: “The Ingalls Memorial Library Board of Trustees should continue to work on the Ingalls Memorial Library expansion and renovation project which was started in the middle 90’s?” (Submitted by the Ingalls Memorial Library Trustees). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed.)

17. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand ($25,000) Dollars for the purpose of developing design documents for the expansion and renovation of the Ingalls Memorial Library? (Submitted by the Ingalls Memorial Library Trustees). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.)

18. Shall the Town vote, pursuant to RSA 35:9-a-II, to authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to pay for capital reserve fund investment management services, and any other expenses incurred, from capital reserve fund income? No vote by the Town to rescind such authority shall occur within five (5) years of the original adoption of this Warrant Article. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed. Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)
19. Are you in favor of repealing the Town of Rindge Impact Fee Ordinance? (Submitted by Petition). (Recommended by the Planning Board, 4 in favor, 3 opposed.)

20. Shall the Town of Rindge vote to oppose approval by the NH Energy Facility Site Evaluation Committee of the construction and installation of a natural gas pipeline by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC (a Kinder Morgan Company) as part of the Northeast Energy Direct Project because the proposal is inconsistent with the basic tenet of individual property rights whereas if approved, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC shall have the power to force private property owners to give up rights under Eminent Domain proceedings in order to create a new corridor for the installation of the pipeline project? (Submitted by Petition).

21. Shall the Town of Rindge vote to oppose approval by the NH Energy Facility Site Evaluation Committee of the construction and installation of a natural gas pipeline by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC (a Kinder Morgan Company) as part of the Northeast Energy Direct Project because the proposal is inconsistent with the Town’s goal of protecting its aquifers, drinking water including community and private wells, wetlands, streams and other bodies of water. In addition, the proposal to extract water to use in drilling or other operations, whether from a body of water or well, is inconsistent with the Town’s goal to protect such waters? (Submitted by Petition).

22. Shall the Town of Rindge vote to deny permission to the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC (a Kinder Morgan Company), its representatives, contractors, sub-contractors, or associates to enter any Town-owned property, including but not limited to Converse Meadow, to perform surveys or for any other purpose in furtherance of a pipeline infrastructure project. Any such physical entry onto Town-owned property will be considered unauthorized, and treated as trespass and prosecuted as such? (Submitted by Petition).

23. To transact any other business that may legally come before this Meeting?
Given under our hand and seal this 26th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen.

Roberta Oeser, Chairman

Daniel Aho

Robert Hamilton

[Signature]

Held Jan 24, 2015

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